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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:	Joshi et al.
Serial no.:	10/541,011
I.A. Filed:	December 29, 2003
Title:	ENHANCED GENERATION OF HYDROXYL RADICALS
Examiner:	Edna Wong
Art Unit:	1753

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

Response

This response is in reply to the final office action mailed on June 14, 2007.

Claim amendments

Please amend claims 1, 3, and 7 as shown on the attached pages – starting at page 4.

Obviousness

1. The Examiner rejected claims 1-17 as being unpatentable over CS 274995 (hereinafter CS '995) in combination with US 6,793,903 (hereinafter Parrish). After carefully comparing the instant application with prior art citations we respectfully traverse the Examiner's assertion for the below mentioned reasons.

2. The instant invention fundamentally differs from prior art, specifically CS '995 and Parrish, with respect to the problem addressed. We strongly disagree with the Examiner's assertion that the problem addressed by the two above-mentioned documents and the instant application relates to decomposing hydrogen peroxide.

   The problem solved in CS '995 document relates to processing sewage waters containing heavy metals bound with complex-forming organic compounds, such as phenol, EDTA and sodium benzoate, which cannot be removed by usual chemical procedures; UV irradiation and visible light are employed in the presence of Fe, Cu and Ni ions possibly with the addition of hydrogen peroxide (CS '995, par. 3 on page 1, page 4). In particular, CS '995 relates to treating sewage waters contaminated with galvanic bathes (par. 4 on page 1).